

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Arafat: Israeli fanatics provided bombs in attacks

DAVID MAKOVSKY

AN unholy conspiracy of Israeli "fanatics," who are members of a shadowy group of ex-IDF people called "OAS," and Moslem extremists were behind Sunday's suicide bombings, Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat told foreign diplomats yesterday, according to diplomatic sources.

He calls the alleged group OAS, or Organisation l'Armee Secret, the acronym of a group of French military people in the 1960s who sought to thwart Charles de Gaulle as he embarked upon a peace policy with Algeria. Arafat is even known to have said last year, before Barak became foreign minister, that "Barak is one of the big bosses of the OAS."

human rights violations. There is also speculation that he may once again close down the Hamas-leaning newspaper in Gaza, *al-Watan*.
Some of the diplomats who met with Arafat told him he should regard the suicide bombings as a personal affront, since the Islamic militants had defied a promise to him to cease attacks. Therefore, the diplomats urged, the militants should be disciplined.

Informal sources said Israeli security officials gave their Palestinian counterparts the names of people suspected of being part of a Hamas infrastructure. It is believed they also gave their alleged whereabouts, as well as possible safe houses.

Arafat said he was sure the OAS supplied the explosives, because of the sophistication of the bombs, which he claimed is beyond Palestinian capability and "not available anywhere in the Arab world."

Arafat responded that understandings with Hamas against terrorism have been "complicated" by Israel's killing of Hamas terror mastermind Yihye Ayyash, dubbed "The Engineer."

Prime Minister Shimon Peres told the Knesset plenum yesterday he had given Arafat a list of operational demands.

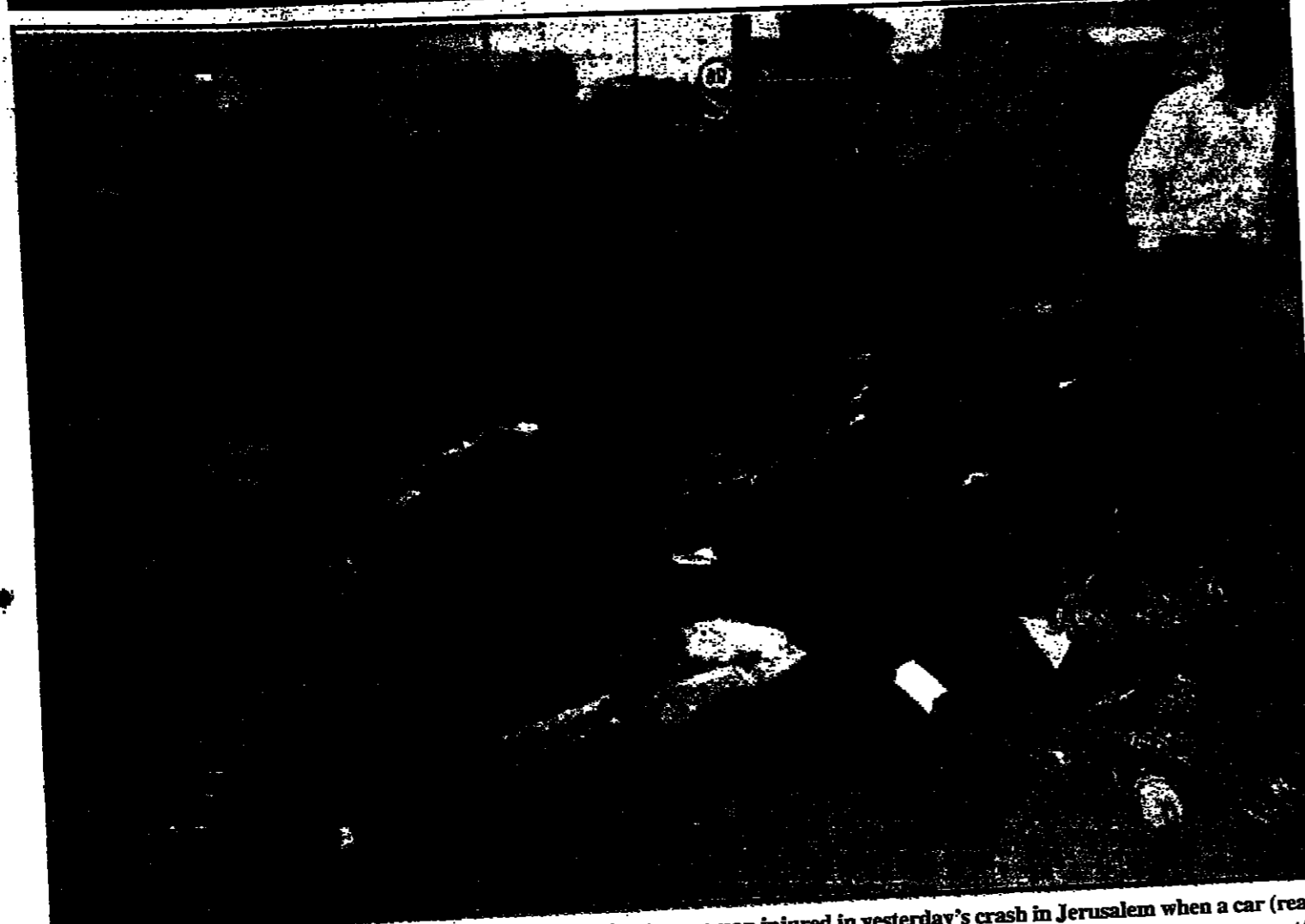
When Barak was asked about this allegation, he dismissed it as nonsense, saying Arafat should take care of his extremists and Israel will take care of its own.

Barak urged the envoys to cable their countries to press Arafat to take a tougher stand against militants. He said if the Israelis do not have security, the peace process could be hurt.

Furthermore, in a meeting with about 30 ambassadors from countries which donate funds to the PA, Foreign Minister Ehud Barak said the closure could be extended in accordance with security needs, and raised the prospect this could last "some weeks or months."

Arafat told diplomats and foreign groups that "the [explosive] material was offered by the OAS to 'our fanatics.'" Arafat insists that a shadowy organization exists in Israel of ex-IDF people determined to sabotage the

peace process.
In his meetings with some of the diplomats, Arafat asked that a message be conveyed to Barak asking him not to call for a cut-off of funds to the PA in retaliation for the bombing. Indeed, Barak refrained from making an explicit call for such a cut-off, though it was implied.



A soldier and bystander apply mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to a woman injured in yesterday's crash in Jerusalem when a car (rear) driven by an Arab-American jumped a curb and crashed into a crowd. The driver's body lies at left. (AP)

2 killed, 22 injured in J'lem crash

Police unsure if Arab-American driver deliberately drove into crowd

BILL HUTMAN and HERB KEINON

POLICE had still not determined by late last night if the Arab-American shot dead after he drove into a crowd at a Jerusalem bus stop yesterday - killing a woman and injuring 22 - did so intentionally or by accident.

Several people in the crowd, and apparently also soldiers and policemen at the scene, opened fire and killed Californian Ahmed Abdul Hamideh, 37, thinking he was a terrorist, police said.

A woman at the bus stop, just after the French Hill interchange on Ramallah Road that also serves as an army hitchhiking post, was pronounced dead at the scene by Magen David Adom medics. Here name was not released as of last night.

Police brass and municipal leaders said the situation was tense in the capital following Sunday's suicide bombing, making it that much more difficult to determine exactly what happened at the interchange.

Fourteen people, all of them suffering slight injuries, were

rushed to Hadassah-University Hospital, Mount Scopus, just a few minutes away. A hospital spokesman said that most of them suffered injuries to their arms and legs. One person was admitted with gunshot wounds.

For the second day in a row, the press rushed to the hospital and clamored around the beds of the injured for an eyewitness account.

Molly Emanuel, from a moshav near Jerusalem, said that she was waiting for a ride to Ofra, where she is doing her national service. "I was standing there," she said, "and saw somebody signal. I thought he was stopping, but then he stepped on the gas. He went up on the sidewalk and into us."

'Anyone might have done the same'

THE three civilians who opened fire at the driver of the car were brought in for questioning by police, and later released. The three are all yeshiva students in their early 20s.

IDF, police at odds over decision not to reimpose closure on Sunday

BILL HUTMAN, LIAT COLLINS, AND ON LEVY

A CLOSURE was not imposed on Sunday, despite intelligence information that an attack was planned for that day, although not the double-suicide bombings that eventually did occur, Prime Minister Shimon Peres revealed yesterday.

Police sources said the decision was taken by Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, without consulting Peres, and despite the General Security Service believing a closure should be imposed.

Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal is upset with Shahak for not bringing the matter before government leaders, the police sources said.

Police believed that a closure would be imposed, after receiving an intelligence report from the GSS of the planned attack, giving specific details of what was planned.

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Nine-year-old immigrant left orphaned by bombing

BATSHEVA TSUR and news agencies

VLADIMIR Kushnirov, 9, who was orphaned by Sunday's bus bombing in Jerusalem, buried his parents yesterday.

After the funeral, the pale-faced boy drew a picture with color crayons. Explaining the drawing to a Channel 2 reporter, he said in halting Hebrew, "I am standing next to the grave of my parents and I am crying. Hebreu, 'I am standing next to the grave of my father. Father, mother, don't leave and here I wrote that I am telling my father. Father, mother, don't leave me."

priza

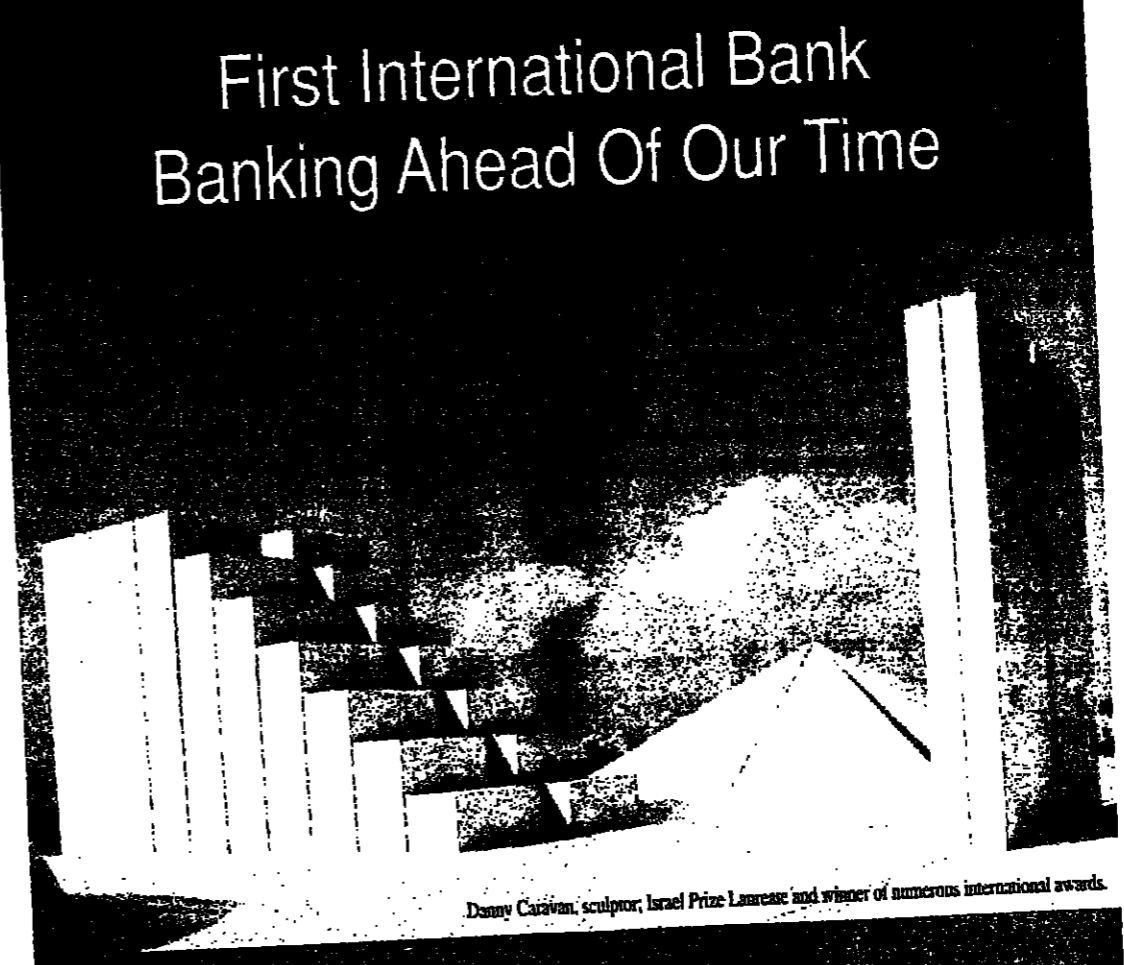
PM: No limits on fight against terror

LIAT COLLINS

"WE will not halt the peace process, we will continue with it," Prime Minister Shimon Peres told the Knesset plenum yesterday.

The House was extremely tense during the address, which came barely an hour after the incident in French Hill that at the time was believed to be a terror attack, and shortly after many MKs returned from the funeral of Jerusalem bus bomb victim Yonatan Barnea, son of Yediot Aharanot journalist Nahum.

Peres accused Hamas of undermining the Palestinians' desire for peace. "They shoot at our citizens, but they harm the Palestinians' hope. They are responsible for the hatred, the killing, the poverty, and the closure." He stressed the need for the Palestinian Authority to act against extremist terror and called on foreign countries allowing fundraising for Hamas's so-called charity organizations to halt these activities.



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Nine bombing victims buried yesterday

NINE of the victims from Sunday's bombings were buried yesterday.

Many of the wounded improved and some were sent home, but 15 remain in serious condition and several are still in danger.

Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem reported that seven of its 11 remaining victims are in intensive care and connected to a respirator. They are Shmuel Eitach, Gavra Madhan Atzada, Ira Weinstein, Eyal Zizi, Keren Simantov, Shimshon Dana, and Sarid Schwartzon. Two victims are in moderate-to-good condition at Hadassah-University Hospital, Mt. Scopus.

Tel Hashomer's Sheba Hospital has four victims in serious condition, but they are reportedly holding their own. Ten wounded remain in Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem, and one is still in critical condition. Three others

JUDY SIEGEL and film

are in serious but stable condition. Bikur Holim Hospital released all the victims it had treated for light injuries.

A complete list of the dead:

Sgt. Yonatan Barnea, 20, of Jerusalem;

St.-Sgt. Gavriel Krauss, 24, of Jerusalem;

St.-Sgt. Gadi Shiloni, 22, of Jerusalem;

Cpl. Moshe Reuven, 19, of Jerusalem;

St.-Sgt. Maj. (res.) Arye Barashi, 39, of Jerusalem;

Cpl. Iliya Nimotin, 19, of Jerusalem;

Cpl. Merav Nahum, 19, of Jerusalem;

Sgt. Sharon Hanuka, 19, of Jerusalem;

Sgt. Hofit Ayyash, 20, of Ashdod;

Arik Gaby, 16, of Jerusalem; Matthew Eisenfeld, 25, of Connecticut;

Sara Duker, of New Jersey; Daniel Biton, 42, of Jerusalem; Yitzhak Elbaz, 57, of Jerusalem;

Boris Sharpolinsky, 64, of Jerusalem; Semion Trakashvili, 64, of Jerusalem;

Yitzhak Yakhnis, 54, of Jerusalem; Navon Shabo, 22, of Bnei Brak;

Anatoly Kushnirov, 36, of Jerusalem; Jana Kushnirov, 37, of Jerusalem;

Masuda Amar, 59, of Jerusalem; Swietlana Gelezniak, of Jerusalem;

Michael Yerin, 16, of Kibbutz Ma'abarot; and Filene Zaguri.



An honor guard of paratroopers fires a final salute to St.-Sgt. Maj. (res.) Arye Barashi, a victim of Sunday's Jerusalem bus bombing, at his funeral yesterday. (Ariel Jerolimski)

Jerusalem bus bomber came from Hebron

THE terrorist who carried out the Jerusalem bus bomb attack on Monday apparently came from Hebron, Prime Minister Shimon Peres told Knesset reporters yesterday. He did not rule out the possibility that the Ashkelon car bomber was also from Hebron, and that both were dressed as Israeli soldiers.

LIAT COLLINS and BILL HUTMAN

Police still had no leads yesterday on the identity of the suicide bomber that killed 24 persons near Jerusalem's central bus station, according to police sources.

None of the passengers questioned by police has yet identified

anyone on the bus they saw as suspicious. "Many of the passengers are still in shock, which is making the investigation difficult," a source said.

All the bodies of those killed except that of the man believed to be the terrorist have been identified at the National Forensics Institute at Abu Kabir.

PALESTINIAN police arrested 70 Hamas activists yesterday, bringing the number arrested since Sunday's bombing attacks to nearly 100, including several Izzadin Kassam members.

The Palestinian Authority Information Ministry, meanwhile, began to criticize Israel for planning a closure and contributing to the atmosphere that creates

violence.

No well-known activists were among those captured in house-to-house searches in the past two days except the brothers Mohammed and Eyman Jadallah from the Sheikh Radwan neighborhood of Gaza City. The two are cousins of Salah Jadallah, one of the kidnappers of the soldier Nahshon Wachsmann.

Hamas has not identified either of the two suicide bombers, although both are said to come from Hebron, which is under Israeli control. Prime Minister Shimon Peres said he knows the identity of one of them.

There is no indication that the Palestinian police are breaking up the infrastructure of Hamas. A leaflet in the name of Hamas praised the bombings.

The two major Izzadin Kassam organizers, Mohammed Deip, now Izzadin Kassam commander,

and Mohi Eddin Sharif, a bomber-maker considered the successor to Yihye Ayyash, are known to move about Gaza and Jericho, but have not been apprehended.

Gaza police Commander Ghazi Jabali said yesterday that the roundup of suspected violent activists would continue and his forces would take "intensive new steps" against the planners of violence.

As Palestine Radio condemned the attacks yesterday, the Palestinian Authority Information Ministry stated that "the Israeli side carries responsibility for creating an atmosphere conducive to acts like these."

This includes land expropriations, collective punishment and lack of respect for Palestinian residents' feelings, it said. Closures are also considered collective punishment.

Palestinian Police arrests 100 Hamas men

JON IMMANUEL

PA Economics Minister Ahmed Greis expressed concern that the open-ended closure declared by Israel would create a dangerous atmosphere. "We will lose daily at least four to six million dollars," he said yesterday.

The closure will be especially severe as it will not permit passage of truckloads of Gazan produce which was permitted in the last closure. This includes tomatoes, which Israel agreed to purchase in bulk under the Paris economic accords. When it did so, these brought the price of Israeli tomatoes down sharply leading to Israeli farmers' protests at Gaza checkpoints last month.

Yesterday Palestinian police at the Allenby Bridge terminal returned to work after a three-day strike provoked, they said, by unnecessary Israeli humiliation of Palestinians during searches. The bridge remained open to Palestinian traffic during the strike.

AMIT women
and the
AMIT Network of Educational Projects

mourn together with the House of Israel the deep tragedy that befell our people.
We extend heartfelt condolences to the bereaved and wish a speedy recovery to all.

Evelyn Blachor National President
Shoshannah Rick Chairwoman, Israel Executive
Dr Ami Ze'evi Director General

With deep shock and heartfelt sympathy we mourn the tragic death of
YONI (Jonathan) BARNEA
beloved son of Tamara and Nahum
May you be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

Ambassador Milton A. Wolf President
Michael Schneider Executive Vice President
and the family of
the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee

The combined leadership delegation to Israel representing North American Conservative Jewry join family and friends in mourning the tragic and untimely deaths of
MATTHEW EISENFELD and SARA DUKER
American students at our movement's Jerusalem Bet Midrash; and all the other victims of the bombings in Jerusalem and Ashkelon.

Mercuz U.S.A. Rabbinical Assembly
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism
Women's League for Conservative Judaism

To
Jacob Ballas
Sincerest condolences on the loss of your beloved mother
GRACE BALLAS
Our thoughts are with you
Sylvia and Fouad Mussaffi
Aliza Mussaffi
Rita and Sabah Peress
Sigal and Yoaz Iskin
Nava and Roy Mussaffi

The Seminary of Jewish Studies and
The Jewish Theological Seminary of America
mourn the untimely deaths of our students and friends
MATTHEW EISENFELD and SARA DUKER
May their families be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.
Memorial service at the Seminary of Judaic Studies, 4 Rehov Avraham Granot, Jerusalem, on Sunday, March 3, 1996, at 7:30 a.m.

The Government of Israel
mourns the deaths of
Massouda Amar
Sgt. Hoffit Ayash
Sgt. Maj. Aryeh Barashi
Sgt. Yonatan Barnea
Daniel Bitton
Simeon Brikashvili
Sara Rachel Duker
Matthew Eisenfeld
Yitzhak Elbaz
Arik Gabai
Peretz Gantz
Svetlana Glaznik
Sgt. Sharon Hanuka
St. Sgt. Gavriel Krauss
Anatoly Kushnirov
Gala Kushnirov
Cpl. Nachum Merav
Cpl. Iliya Nimyutin
Cpl. Moshe Reuven
Navon Shabu
Boris Sharpolinsky
St. Sgt. Gadi Shiloni
Yitzhak Yakhnis
Michael Yarigan
who were murdered by terrorists in Jerusalem and Ashkelon, and extends deepest condolences to the bereaved families.

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM
mourns the deaths of the many innocent victims of the vicious terrorist attacks in Jerusalem and Ashkelon, among them our student
SARA DUKER
of Teaneck, N.J.
and expresses its condolences to her mother, Mrs Arline Duker, her sisters and the entire family

On the fourth anniversary of the passing of our beloved
AVRAHAM HARMAN
we will visit his graveside on Friday, March 1, 1996.
We will gather at the entrance to the Kiryat Shaul cemetery at 9:30 a.m.
The family

LIMITS

(Continued from Page 1)
peace, the agreement, and Israel or whether there is room for only one organization authorized to carry weapons there - the Palestinian Police.

"There is no value to the majority of the PLO won if a minority of armed persons can undermine its policy. The Palestinian Authority must decide to disarm the terrorists or risk endangering its authority. The Palestinian Authority must outlaw those who act contrary to the law, as the agreement between us requires.

Peres said he has instructed the security services to give top priority to the war against terrorism.

"The closure of the territories will continue as long as is required from a security standpoint. Limitations have not been imposed, and will not be imposed, on the pursuit of terrorists, the punishment of those who dispatch them, or the destruction of their cells.

"Murder will not kill the peace process. But there will be no forgiveness for murderers because of the peace process. Of course, we are in pain. But even in pain, we will not throw our objectives of peace and security into the sea..." The House united behind Peres's call to fight terror.

Despite the call to his colleagues by Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu to refrain from heckling the premier, Yehoshua Matza greeted the end of Peres's speech with: "This is the new Middle East."

Netanyahu sent a message to the terrorists. "You won't succeed in breaking us, in making us fall apart. The People of Israel are strong and we will continue to build in our land, in a united Jerusalem."

He also had a message for Peres: "Shimon, fight them with all your strength and all your might and we'll support you. We are united. There is no peace and no calm. Israel should strive for peace while recognizing this reality. It cannot count on a Palestinian Army, only on the IDF. The security forces should have freedom of action."

He quoted Peres's mentor David Ben-Gurion saying, "Peace can only be achieved when there is security."

Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan called on the government to stop all contacts with the Palestinians and fight terror.
Molodet leader Rehavam Ze'evi called on Peres to resign immediately. He heckled the prime minister during his address.

Restraint from Likud, Page 3

CRASH

(Continued from Page 1)
changed. Traffic investigators found nine meters of skid marks, indicating Hamideh tried to stop his car, and Amit said he had apparently lost control of the car, perhaps due to slippery road conditions.

Police also discovered that there was no bomb in the car, only bags of recently purchased food in the back seat. Hamideh, an American who held a California driver's license, has no record of any connection with a terror group, further strengthening police belief that it was an accident.

Hamideh was staying with relatives in Beit Hanina, near the scene of the incident, and may have been on his way there, according to police.

But the revised statements that it was apparently an accident didn't hold for long. One of the civilians who opened fire said he

shot after Hamideh got out of the car and attacked a border policeman.

However, another civilian who opened fire said the driver tried to flee, while a third said he opened fire after he saw the other two start shooting.

Police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby released a statement last night, saying: "The police investigation has yet to determine whether it was a traffic accident," and that earlier statements by police brass should be disregarded.

The vehicle, a rented black Fiat, is to be checked today for signs that will hopefully allow police to determine whether Hamideh lost control or whether there was a mechanical problem, Ben-Ruby said.

He also said police are trying to locate the border policeman who was allegedly attacked, as well as other policemen and soldiers who may have opened fire.

CLOSURE

(Continued from Page 1)
"The prime minister decided on Wednesday to lift the closure, and nobody was opposed... If somebody was opposed, he had to go from Wednesday to Friday to say so, but no one did," Shahak said. Shahak made his remark during a visit to three soldiers, seriously wounded in Sunday's Jerusalem bus bombing, at Hadassah-

University Hospital, Ein Kerem. He was informed that their condition, while still serious, has improved.

He noted that while there had been information that a terrorist attack was planned for Sunday, the information was specific, and the attack was not that which took place.

Jim contributed to this report.

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US pressing Arafat to do more

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

THE Clinton Administration yesterday said, after Sunday's bombings, it is awaiting the outcome of the Palestinian judicial processes before pronouncing judgment on the PA's performance against terrorism.

Things that are clearly optics aren't enough," a senior official said. "This is an issue that's going to have to work its way out, in terms of a response by the President Yasser Arafat. The pressure is clearly on Arafat to address the concerns that were expressed."

The US will "have to judge on the totality of the efforts" taken by the PA against the infrastructure of terrorist groups, he said, adding that the pressure the US is applying to Arafat is "nothing new."

Asked whether the US is satisfied that the PA's roundup of Hamas officials was more than

SPORADICALLY chanting "Peres is the next in line," "Traitor, traitor," and "Enough of dreams, we want security," about 150 people gathered yesterday at the site of Sunday's massacre for a protest organized by Zo Artzenu.

"The Left will accuse us of dancing on the blood," Zo Artzenu leader Moshe Feiglin said, "but they perfected the art. If we are dancing on the blood, they performed pirouettes on [Yitzhak] Rabin's blood. They gave us a

crash course on how it's done." Feiglin said the demonstration was a turning point in the lull of protests that has followed the Rabin assassination. "We are returning to the streets, to the intersections. We won't be violent, we were never violent, but we won't be silent either."

Feiglin said that the Left tired to blame the Right for Rabin's assassination, "saying that his blood is on our hands. So if that's the case, on whose hands is the blood that was spilled yesterday. The respon-

HERB KEINON

sibility rests with the government which signed agreements with murderers."

The rally was organized despite appeals by Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu to his followers not to protest. "We do not take orders from Netanyahu," said Shmuel Sackett, another one of the group's leaders. "We want to bring people back into the streets."

There were about as many police and border police as protesters on hand to ensure the demonstration did not spill into Jaffa Road.

People visited the site of the attack throughout the day, added to the hundreds of memorial candles there, and - taking their cue from Rabin Square - wrote messages on a long white sheet that was hung on a fence.

In a related development, Jerusalem Magistrate's Court rejected a petition by the lawyers

of Zo Artzenu heads Feiglin, Sackett, and Benny Elon to dismiss the sedition charges against them.

Sefi Elon, lawyer for his brother, Benny, argued in earlier hearings that the charges be dropped because "this is not an indictment, but an editorial."

The judges did, however, agree to a defense motion to remove from the indictment an attempt to connect Zo Artzenu's protests with the killing of a Palestinian during a protest at Beit El last summer.

Netanyahu's call for restraint meets some opposition

LIAI COLLINS

LIKUD leader Binyamin Netanyahu's call for restraint met with some opposition among his own MKs yesterday.

In an address to the Likud faction before the plenum session, Netanyahu asked his MKs to refrain from heckling Prime Minister Shimon Peres during his statement to the nation. "These are days of mourning and grief. On a day on which we are burying our dead, I have asked our members not to enter the political fray,

and they have acted accordingly," Netanyahu said.

Eliahu Ben-Elissar took exception to the self-imposed silence. "Peres, Interior Minister Haim Ramon, and other cabinet members are expressing their political views. Are we to stand silent and say not a word?" he asked. But Netanyahu repeated his call for a low-key response.

4,000 foreign workers needed if closure is extended

AN extended closure of the territories will necessitate bringing in another 4,000 foreign agricultural workers, Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tzur said yesterday.

He said he has already received appeals from the heads of the agriculture associations that they be assured of workers, especially during harvest season.

There are currently some 13,000 foreigners working in agriculture. As long as workers from the territories were allowed entry, this was sufficient. But should an extended closure be imposed, Tzur said, there will be no choice but to bring in more workers.

Poll shows Peres losing ground

Jerusalem Post Staff

AN opinion poll published yesterday showed Prime Minister Shimon Peres losing ground to Binyamin Netanyahu after the Sunday deaths of 27 people in two suicide bombings.

The Dabaf poll of 501 Israelis for *Yedioth Aharonot* showed Netanyahu narrowing Peres' lead in four days from 15 percentage points to three.

The new poll showed 46% would vote for Peres; 43% for Netanyahu, and 5% for David Levy. Six percent had yet to decide or did not respond.

Government spokesman Uri Dromi called the plunge only tem-

porary, telling Reuters: "I wouldn't hasten to draw any conclusions from an immediate poll."

Another veteran pollster said it was too early to conduct a poll unburdened by the emotions of the moment.

"It's an immediate response that doesn't reflect the long-range situation. It's a knee-jerk reaction, anger, a feeling something has to be done - 'If these guys can't guarantee, then bring in somebody else,'" Dromi said. "In the long range I think it will change again because people will ask themselves seriously what is the alternative."

Shohat: No money left for Internal Security Ministry

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE Ministry of Internal Security's demand for an additional NIS 420 million to finance 2,426 jobs can only be met by transferring funds from the Defense Ministry, aides to Finance Minister Avraham Shohat said today.

Treasury sources said that over the past three to four years, the police budget has grown by 36 percent and its personnel has expanded by 25%, including 5,000 new jobs, 1,100 of them army regulars.

Responding to Internal Security Minister Moshe Shohat's requests, Shohat said last week he thought the government gave "an appropriate" financial reply to the challenges posed by terrorism, road safety, and the Oslo process.

Finance Ministry officials say the Internal Security Ministry can redistribute the resources already at its disposal, rather than ask for an additional budget, especially considering that it had already been granted an additional NIS 200m. earlier this year.

Bill would give minimum sentence for sex crime

THE Knesset Law Committee yesterday approved for first reading a bill to impose a minimum sentence for sex crimes. The minimum will be one-fourth of the maximum

sentence for each crime. The bill will apply only to rape and to sexual abuse by parents or those in a position of trust, such as teachers.

Evelyn Gordon



ISRAEL EXPORT INSTITUTE

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING FORUM

Dan Panorama Tel Aviv Convention Center
Tel Aviv, February 28-29, 1996

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

8:30 - 9:00 Registration

9:00 - 9:30 Welcome and opening:

Mr. Amir Hayek,
Director General,
Israel Export Institute
Mr. Glideon Shurr,
International Affairs
and External Relations,
Bank of Israel

9:30 - 10:15 Morning Session

Keynote Address by Hon. Stephen Solazar,
Chairman of the Central Asia-American
Enterprise Fund:
"Business Investment opportunities in the
Central Asia Republic"

10:15 - 10:45 Coffee break

10:45 - 13:30 Presentations by representatives of:

The European Bank for Reconstruction
& Development (EBRD),
Mr. Yoav Kurtzbard
Banker - Agro-Business Dept.

The International Finance Corporation (IFC)
Mr. Nessim Ezekiel
Director Corporate Planning Dept. and a team of
consultants

The Swiss Bank Corporation (SBC)
Mr. Sy Rotter
Co-Financing Consultant

"The possibilities of Co-Financing with Israeli
Entrepreneurs and Commercial Banks in the
private sector".

13:30 - 14:45 Luncheon Speaker
Mr. Amir Makov - Chairman - Israel Export
Institute

15:00 - 17:00 Afternoon Sessions
Successful business experiences financed by the
EBRD.

Bezeq's Telecommunications project in Hungary
Ioav Krill - President

Health-care project in Baku - Azarbidjan
Mr. Yaacov Vitkovsky, CPA - Inter Experts Israel
Ltd.

17:00 - 18:30 Cocktails provided by Bank Leumi Le-Israel

Moderated by: Mr. Yair Ofek - Deputy Director General -
Israel Export Institute

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Moderated by:

Mr. Raphy Merom
Deputy Director, International Affairs -
Bank of Israel

Morning Sessions

Presentations by representatives of:
The World Bank (IBRD-IDA)
Mr. Ali Khadr
Deputy Resident Representative in Jerusalem

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
Mr. Andres Bajuk - Special Representative in
Europe
Mr. Sergio Orce - Senior Advisor

European Investment Bank (EIB)
Ms. Ilana Karp-Lazar - Manager
International Division Bank Leumi

Coffee break

The Role of Trade Risks Insurance Corporations
in the Project Financing Market

Mr. Srilal M. Perera
MIGA
Mr. Doron Klausner
Director General - IFTRIC
Successful business experiences
Ormat's project in the Philippines
Mr. Patrick Francois - V.P. Project Finance

Baitman Eng. Project in Russia
Mr. Shuki Raz - Deputy Director General

Luncheon Speaker
Dr. Thomas Geer
Corporate Planning Director
Krupp-Hoesch Group of Companies

Afternoon Sessions

Panel discussion: "The role of Institutional
Investors in Development
Funding"

Moderator: Dr. Ehud Kaufman
President B.H. Consultants
Mr. Jean Michel Etienne - Dep. Director, Int.
Econ Affairs
Ministry of Public Works - France

Coffee break

Concluding comments - Panel with the
participation of representatives of the Bank Of
Israel, Israel Export Institute, Private Banks,
IFTRIC and guests.

Moderator: Prof. Haim Ben Shohar
President - Ben Shohar Associates

JDC-Israel ESHEL

Development of Services for the Elderly: Towards the Year 2000

Symposium and Discussion of Eshel's 6th Five-Year Plan will take place on Feb. 28, 1996 at the Ramat Rachel Guest House, Jerusalem

Greetings:

Mr. Avraham Ben Shoshan, Director-General,
Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs
Mr. Arnon Mantver, Director, JDC-Israel
Dr. Zvi Feine, Chairman, JDC-Eshel
Dr. Yitzhak Brick, Director-General, JDC-Eshel

Plenary Discussions:

Social trends and their influence on social services -
Prof. Yaakov Kop, Director, Center for Social Policy Studies
Problems and challenges in geriatric services -
Prof. Mark Klarfield, Head, Geriatric Dept., Health Ministry
Problems in answering the changing needs of the elderly -
Jenny Brodsky, Director, Research Program on Aging, JDC-Brookdale
Eshel's sixth five-year plan -
Dror Rotem, Director, Planning and Research, JDC-Eshel

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For further details: 02-6557191, 02-6557137, 02-6557194

BANK OF ISRAEL

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING FORUM

Dan Panorama Tel Aviv Convention Center
Tel Aviv, February 28-29, 1996

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

8:30 - 9:00 Registration

9:00 - 9:30 Welcome and opening:

Mr. Amir Hayek,
Director General,
Israel Export Institute
Mr. Glideon Shurr,
International Affairs
and External Relations,
Bank of Israel

9:30 - 10:15 Morning Session

Keynote Address by Hon. Stephen Solazar,
Chairman of the Central Asia-American
Enterprise Fund:
"Business Investment opportunities in the
Central Asia Republic"

10:15 - 10:45 Coffee break

10:45 - 13:30 Presentations by representatives of:

The European Bank for Reconstruction
& Development (EBRD),
Mr. Yoav Kurtzbard
Banker - Agro-Business Dept.

The International Finance Corporation (IFC)
Mr. Nessim Ezekiel
Director Corporate Planning Dept. and a team of
consultants

The Swiss Bank Corporation (SBC)
Mr. Sy Rotter
Co-Financing Consultant

"The possibilities of Co-Financing with Israeli
Entrepreneurs and Commercial Banks in the
private sector".

13:30 - 14:45 Luncheon Speaker
Mr. Amir Makov - Chairman - Israel Export
Institute

15:00 - 17:00 Afternoon Sessions
Successful business experiences financed by the
EBRD.

Bezeq's Telecommunications project in Hungary
Ioav Krill - President

Health-care project in Baku - Azarbidjan
Mr. Yaacov Vitkovsky, CPA - Inter Experts Israel
Ltd.

17:00 - 18:30 Cocktails provided by Bank Leumi Le-Israel

Moderated by: Mr. Yair Ofek - Deputy Director General -
Israel Export Institute

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Moderated by:

Mr. Raphy Merom
Deputy Director, International Affairs -
Bank of Israel

Morning Sessions

Presentations by representatives of:
The World Bank (IBRD-IDA)
Mr. Ali Khadr
Deputy Resident Representative in Jerusalem

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
Mr. Andres Bajuk - Special Representative in
Europe
Mr. Sergio Orce - Senior Advisor

European Investment Bank (EIB)
Ms. Ilana Karp-Lazar - Manager
International Division Bank Leumi

Coffee break

The Role of Trade Risks Insurance Corporations
in the Project Financing Market

Mr. Srilal M. Perera
MIGA
Mr. Doron Klausner
Director General - IFTRIC
Successful business experiences
Ormat's project in the Philippines
Mr. Patrick Francois - V.P. Project Finance

Baitman Eng. Project in Russia
Mr. Shuki Raz - Deputy Director General

Luncheon Speaker
Dr. Thomas Geer
Corporate Planning Director
Krupp-Hoesch Group of Companies

Afternoon Sessions

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President - Ben Shohar Associates

7 new immigrants killed in Sunday's bomb attacks

SEVEN new immigrants were killed in Sunday's terrorist blast in Jerusalem, the Absorption Ministry spokesman said yesterday.

The ministry set up emergency headquarters under director-general Efraim Cohen and sent out Russian-speaking teams to help the families of the victims.

This brings to 30 the number of new immigrants killed in terrorist activities in the past five years, he said.

In addition, some 20 of those injured on Sunday also appear to be new immigrants, the spokesman said. The Russian-speaking teams were combing all the hospitals yesterday to establish the exact number and to provide assistance, he said.

The fatalities include Anatoly

BATSHEVA TSUR

and Jana Kushnirov, in their thirties, who immigrated in April 1994. They leave behind two children, aged nine and four months.

Another victim, Boris Sharpolinsky, 55, arrived in Israel only eight months ago. He had no relatives here.

Other immigrants killed on Sunday include Swietlana Gelezniak, 33, who made aliya in June 1991 and is survived by her husband and a small son; Yitzhak Yakhnis, 54, who moved here four years and leaves behind a wife and daughter; Semion Trakashvili, 64, three years in the country, who is survived by his wife and son; and Cpl. Iliya Nimotin, 19.

Nimotin's mother is a widow

and he was her only son.

"Unfortunately, in all the terror blasts, the number of immigrants is disproportionately high because they constitute a large percentage of the passengers who use public transport," Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban said yesterday.

Paradoxically, Tzaban said, the attacks have created "a kind of blood bond between these immigrants and this country. Of course we would have wanted a different type of bond - but this is impossible until we achieve peace and succeed in fully counteracting terrorism," Tzaban said.

He called on the public to open their hearts to the victims who usually do not have many relatives and friends to help them in their time of pain.



Pupils comfort each other at Beit Hinuch High School in the capital's Katamonim neighborhood.

(Brian Hecker)

'Israel, not peace process, bombers' target'

"THIS isn't a war on peace, but an attempt to undermine the country," President Ezer Weizman said yesterday, referring to Sunday's suicide bombings.

"But our country is strong and must be able to encourage aliya so that we will have more Jews. I can't promise that there won't be people crying and that there won't be sadness, but at the same time we must look at ourselves and see how much we've accomplished as a country."

Weizman was speaking with reporters following a visit to Barzilai hospital, where 11 of those wounded in the bomb blast in Ashkelon are hospitalized, one moderately and 10 lightly.

The president said he was pleased by the way the country's leaders responded to the terror attacks, specifically, that they didn't try to make political capital out of them.

As regards the Palestinians, Weizman said: "If they don't take themselves in hand and don't find solutions, the situation will get worse also from our responses."

The president said that in the coming month he intends to visit the homes of each of the 25 victims of Sunday's attacks. (Iim)

Deaths of three classmates leave Jerusalem high school in shock

AT the entrance to Beit Hinuch High School in Jerusalem, there is a memorial board with brass plaques bearing the names of graduates killed in terrorist attacks or military action.

There are 67 names on the board. Now there will be three more.

Three graduates of the school - 20-year-old Yonatan Barnea, 19-year-old Moshe Reuven and 19-year-old Merav Nahum - died in Sunday's Jerusalem bus bombing.

Yesterday, three memorial candles burned on a table draped in black at the school. "Beit Hinuch announces with great sorrow the falling of its graduates," a poster said.

"Merav, Yoni and Moshe were

murdered by evil people whose intention was only to murder Jews and kill the peace."

"I don't think there is a single person in this school who didn't know at least one of the fallen," said 15-year-old Ariel Margalit, who was in Barnea's scouts group. "The whole school is in mourning."

Students at Beit Hinuch have been through the mourning process before. One graduate was killed in a suicide bombing last year. Another was killed in an attack in downtown Jerusalem in October 1994. There have been other recent deaths in Lebanon, and in an army training accident.

The three from Beit Hinuch who died Sunday were doing their army service. Nahum had been

drafted just three months ago. A pretty girl with dark, curly hair and dark eyes, "she was always happy and willing to help anyone," said Michal Porat, a Bible and history teacher.

Reuven, teachers said, was a quiet boy, and an excellent student. When he entered high school, he insisted on taking an advanced physics class, over the objections of his teachers and counselors.

But the student teachers remembered best was Barnea - always a leader, always doing something that drew attention.

"You couldn't help noticing him," said Porat. "He had something to say about everything. In many things, he was the linchpin of the class."

In the final year of high school, Barnea came up with the idea for a class play based on the camp classic, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. For a Purim shpiel, he got the class to dress up as characters from *Crime and Punishment*.

For a class videotape, Barnea shaved his head, leaving only the letters that stood for his class year. Barnea's father was Nahum Barnea, a well-known columnist for *Yediot Aharanot*.

The newspaper said yesterday that Nahum Barnea had gone to the scene of the explosion before knowing his son was among the victims. When newspaper editors learned that his son had been identified, they got him away from the site on a pretext, then broke the news. (AP)

'Why do all these calamities keep hitting me?'

BATSHEVA TSUR

JUST a year ago, Lilia and Michael Yerigin left their home in Donyensk in Ukraine with a group of pupils coming to study on Youth Aliyah's Na'aleh-16 program.

Early this morning, their mother Yevgenia was due to arrive alone - to attend Michael's funeral.

Michael, 16, was the youngest victim of Sunday's terrorist attack.

"Why do all these calamities keep hitting me?" a pale Lilia, 17, asked again and again. Her friends at Jerusalem's Goldstein Youth Village just continued to hug her or hold her hand.

On Friday, Michael had come to Goldstein to spend the weekend with his sister. Because he was younger, he had been sent with a group to Kibbutz Ma'abarot.

As he and Lilia were walking in the neighborhood, Lilia pointed out the No. 18 bus to him. "You don't usually take it, but it goes directly to the central bus station," she said. Early on Sunday morning, Michael took her advice.

When news of the attack

reached Goldstein, Lilia knew immediately. Michael's counselor was contacted and went to the Abu Kabir forensic institute, where he identified the body.

The news had to be relayed to Yevgenia in Donyensk. The local Jewish Agency emissary was out of town. Frantic arrangements were made by the Jewish Agency to contact a doctor to go to her house. He told Yevgenia her son was injured. Only later, once the doctor was there, did Lilia call her mother.

Yevgenia, who lost her husband to a heart attack only two months ago, was accompanied by a Jewish Agency worker on her flight to Israel.

Agency Chairman Avraham Burg, who visited Lilia yesterday, said her mother would receive an apartment. Meanwhile, during shiva, she will stay in Lilia's room.

"If you have any requests, just ask. From now on, we will be your family," Burg promised Lilia, who is in the process of becoming a citizen.

Michael will be buried at noon today.

NEWSLINE with DR. BERNIE STEIN

Dr. Bernie Stein is chief psychologist, Ministry of Education

Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein ordered that yesterday's first class at schools throughout the country be dedicated to discussion about the Jerusalem and Ashkelon bombing. How important are these discussions?

They are extremely important. It's a national tragedy, and I think it's important that the minister sends a message to the whole school system that it's not back to work as usual when such a tragedy occurs. The discussions give kids a chance to express their feelings, a sort of framework for mourning and to let them know that it's okay to feel fear and anxiety.

How are teachers prepared before confronting pupils?

Unfortunately, we've had a lot of experience. We have 240 psychological and counseling service clinics throughout the country, and we have six regional crisis teams ready to deal with any problem on a personal or national scale. Part of the preparation is working with teachers and schools, and this has been going on since the Yom Kippur War.

Considering we live in such a stressful and turbulent country, do you think enough is being done?

We have many different projects - that help confront any problem that may arise. We've created a system that enables kids and teachers to talk freely. We are a very psychological minded society.

What sort of warning signals should parents look out for if they feel their kids are still traumatized?

The most important thing is that parents allow their children to express their feelings. If they see a child is unusually withdrawn or over anxious, they should immediately consult with a professional psychologist. The most important thing is not to ignore the warning signs. Margo Dudkevitch

Students at New Jersey school mourn classmate

MARILYN HENRY NEW YORK

mourn. Alisa Flatow, class of 1992, was killed in the bus bombing near Kfar Darom last April 9.

"The message comes home to our kids that we are vulnerable, and that we are vulnerable because of our ideals," said Rabbi Saul Zucker, the assistant principal.

There are 100 seniors at the school, and more than half are expected to spend next year in Israel.

"The only way not to die of violence is to live the life of a recluse," said principal Rabbi Menachem Meier. "The question is, how do people deal with fear? No one wants to grant [terrorists] a victory by being paralyzed by fear."

He cautioned the students that it is wrong for this incident to be exploited for political purposes.

Fidgeting in their seats and wringing their hands, a number of seniors said they are frightened, but still intend to spend next year in Israel.

"I'm scared now, especially because it is so close to home," said Avigail Meier, the principal's daughter, for whom Sara once babysat. "You think for a minute that maybe you're making a mistake, but I'm still going to go."

Tracing Missing People

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Buchanan, Forbes look to Arizona; Dole courts Bush

ATLANTA (AP) — With Republican presidential hopefuls making a final push to sway voters in Arizona, Pat Buchanan defended his campaign and its supporters yesterday, saying they were not extremists, but "good Americans."

Bob Dole shrugged off a major staff shakeup, saying, "I want to start winning," and used a speech at a suburban Atlanta business center to assail Bill Clinton's foreign policy.

"President Clinton doesn't have the foggiest notion of how to deal with our enemies. Castro is not our friend," Dole said in Georgia.

Steve Forbes, hoping to repeat his primary victory in Delaware on Saturday, focused on Arizona, where he said, "I think we will make an excellent showing."

However, Forbes said, "I'm not going to make any predictions. We are attracting more and more support as we speak. We'll just take it from there."

Dole, after playing the endorsement game with a pilgrimage in Arizona to the home of Republican patriarch Barry Goldwater and courting former President Bush, used the weekend to downplay two civilian planes by Cuba to ridicule Clinton's foreign policy.

"We need someone who will stand up to Castro, someone who will tighten the strings on Castro, someone to drive Castro out," he told a sparsely attended rally.

He was also asked about morale in his campaign in light of a major new staff shakeup that saw him fire his pollster and demote his chief strategist.

"It's 110 percent," he declared. "I think we need to make a few changes. They have been made and we're moving on." He added, "I want to start winning."

Buchanan, in morning interviews, dismissed his Republican opponents, saying, "They sound

like Bill Clinton."

On the heels of campaigning in conservative churches and at a gun show in Arizona over the weekend, Buchanan dismissed suggestions he is attracting extremists.

"These are good Americans. They want to participate. All we're saying is open the door, we want to come in."

Arizona is the big prize among the three states holding primaries today, with 39 delegates up for grabs — the most so far in this year's primary schedule.

Races are also being held today in North Dakota and South Dakota, followed by a "first-in-the-South" contest in South Carolina on Saturday.

The primaries are to select delegates who will choose a presidential candidate at the Republican National Convention in San Diego in August.

Dole, the Senate majority leader, trying to overcome two straight losses in New Hampshire and Delaware, disclosed that he had talked to Bush soon after the New Hampshire vote.

Asked if he expected an endorsement, Dole said, "Well, it would be nice. I don't know. It's above my pay grade."

Dole said he told Bush: "As soon as we get out of these states where Forbes has spent so heavily, I think we're all right. I just sort of gave him an update." Dole identified those states as Iowa, New Hampshire, Arizona, South Dakota and South Carolina.

Georgia's primary, which the Dole campaign views as one of his better prospects in the South, is March 5. Dole was to visit a McDonnell Douglas plant in Macon and a veterans rally in Columbus later in the day.

Georgia might give Dole a better shot than South Carolina, where the Christian conservative movement has a stronger hold.



Voters in Freetown, Sierra Leone wait in lines throughout the day at a school compound to cast their ballots in the country's first democratic election in more than a decade. (AP)

Moslems, Croats return to suburb, Serbs leave

SARAJEVO (Reuters) — Moslems and Croats began moving back into a Sarajevo suburb they fled four years ago and a Serb exodus continued yesterday, marking the goal of a multi-ethnic Bosnia promised by the Dayton plan.

ATO peacekeepers said plans for a huge convoy including Serb military trucks to help Serbs leave areas due to be transferred to Moslem-Croat rule had dissolved in chaos.

Panicky Serb civilians clamored for places on the 20 Serb army trucks which turned up in one suburb, Iljias, due to come under Bosnian government control on Thursday.

Bosnian Serbs had promised at least 200 vehicles would be involved in a convoy escorted by peacekeepers from the NATO-led Implementation Force (IFOR).

"(NATO) was ready to go...they were ready to escort vehicles but apparently the VRS (Bosnian Serb army) was not," said Major Thomas Moyer, a NATO spokesman in Sarajevo.

"It was total chaos and it showed a lack of leadership and organization on the side of the VRS to get things moving in the right direction."

Permission for the military evacuation was granted by the NATO commander in Bosnia, Admiral Leighton Smith, when it became clear that tens of thousands of Serbs in the five suburbs were desperate to flee but lacked transport.

In the suburb of Vogosca, newly transferred from Serb to Moslem-Croat control, some of the few remaining Serbs were waiting on street corners for Serb army trucks to evacuate them as the first bus from Sarajevo to Vogosca in 46 months pulled up yesterday.

It was carrying Moslems and Croats who fled Serb ethnic cleansing in Vogosca nearly four years ago and were trickling back to reclaim their old homes.

Among the returnees was 42-year-old Suada Zulic, who stepped off and came face-to-face with a former Serb neighbor.

"Sweet sister, how's it going," said the Serb woman.

"My brother got killed, what can I tell you," Suada replied before hurrying away on foot.

Krzysztof Janowski, spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), accused both Moslem-Croat Federation police and hardline Serb leaders of encouraging the Serb exodus by fanning panic in the five suburbs due to come under the control of the Moslem-Croat federation by March 20.

Clinton orders retaliation against Cuba

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration moved yesterday to punish Fidel Castro for the downing of two civilian US aircraft, pledging to impose "a price for outrageous behavior."

The president's broad response to Saturday's incident included measures to target Cuban aviation, including restrictions on US air travel to Cuba, said a senior administration official.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the sanction was part of a series of economic, diplomatic and political steps against Castro.

Clinton also was expected to demand reparations from Cuba for the families of the downed pilots, and was warning up to a bill in Congress to punish companies that do business with Cuba, the official said. The president was expected to drop his objections to the bill, with some qualifications.

Clinton was to unveil his plans at an appearance in the White House briefing room later in the day.

Press secretary Mike McCurry, briefing reporters before the president's announcement, said Clinton "approved a series of steps that the United States will pursue with the international community and unilaterally that we believe will make it clear that

there's a price for outrageous behavior."

Clinton's options were few. Military action was not under consideration, aides said, and the current economic embargo has few loopholes for Clinton to close.

Clinton made the decision after a 75-minute meeting with his foreign policy team. They were considering tougher restrictions on travel, communications and some financial transactions that Clinton had eased last fall.

US Air Force F-16 fighters have been on precautionary alert in south Florida since Saturday, Defense Secretary William Perry said yesterday.

"We are on alert," Perry told reporters at the Pentagon. "We have an alert status in southern Florida. But that is just a simple, routine precaution." He said US warplanes had not increased flights in the region.

Perry echoed criticism by other US officials against Cuba over the shooting down by a MiG-29 fighter jet of two small planes flown by Cuban exiles. He said they were in international waters and the Cuban pilot knew they were unarmed.

Cuba has admitted to downing the aircraft

but said they were within its airspace.

"We have from the beginning [since the incident] placed F-16s in southern Florida on alert, and they continue to be on alert. We have not been increasing air sorties," Perry said in response to questions from reporters at a briefing on another matter.

Perry said two US Navy guided-missile warships, the cruiser Mississippi and frigate John Hall, were also in waters between the United States and Cuba, helping the Coast Guard search for any survivors of the incidents.

"As you know, no survivors have been found, and the commandant of the Coast Guard [Admiral Robert Kramek] will make the decision as to when to conclude this search," Perry said.

"The actions that the Cubans took was outrageous. There was no justification for it," he told reporters.

"It was not only that these airplanes were in international air space, and it was not only that they were civilian and unarmed aircraft, but the pilot who shot them down knew they were unarmed and knew they were civilian. There was no excuse for that action."

Major struggles to head off humiliation

LONDON (Reuters) — Prime Minister John Major's government fought yesterday to head off a humiliating parliamentary defeat by accepting stinging criticisms made by a senior judge about arms sales to Iraq before the Gulf War.

Trade Secretary Ian Lang announced to parliament a series of reforms aimed at allaying concerns of a handful of members of the ruling Conservative Party who have threatened to withhold their support from Major, who has a majority of just two.

"Mistakes were made. There are lessons to be learned," Lang said in a speech opening a debate on the report by senior judge Sir Richard Scott, released 10 days ago, which attacked the government's conduct in the 1980s.

Defeat in the vote late last night would not bring down Major's battered government, which after 17 years in office trails the Labor opposition in opinion polls by more than 20 percentage points.

If he loses, Major would call a

vote of confidence today or tomorrow, which all parties expect him to survive.

But defeat, or a slim victory, would expose Major's fragile hold on power and fuel speculation that he might have to hold the next general election well before the May 1997 deadline.

Lang told a noisy House of Commons (lower house) that the government accepted Scott's criticism about export controls and licensing procedures for arms sales and would consult widely on how to reform them.

The government also accepted the need to improve the distribution of intelligence material and would be willing to cooperate with a parliamentary committee examining the question of ministerial accountability.

But Lang stood firm in refusing to acknowledge ministers had connived in the sale of arms-making equipment to Iraq or had tried to cover up evidence that may have led to three businessmen being wrongfully jailed.

HOUSTON (AP) — A half-ton metal satellite and its 19-km leash snaked through orbit yesterday free of shuttle Columbia after breaking loose without warning and drifting into space.

The electricity-generating experiment ended abruptly, five hours after it began, with an urgent message from astronaut Jeffrey Hoffman.

"The tether has broken at the boom! The tether has broken! It is going away from us!" he told Mission Control.

Ground controllers verified after a few anxious moments that the satellite and its 19.5 km of dangling cord, resembling a long, spiraling french fry, posed no danger to the seven astronauts.

Although relieved the crew was

safe, American and Italian researchers who had poured years into the tethered satellite system were crushed.

"There is intense disappointment," NASA mission scientist Noble Stone said yesterday.

No evasive action was needed by the shuttle pilots. The satellite and tether were more than 29 km away from Columbia within minutes

after the break and hundreds of miles away within hours.

The slender cord, one-tenth of an inch thick and resembling a boot lace, was supposed to be unreeled to a distance of 20.5 km. It was nearly to that point when the break occurred inside a 12-meter tower in the shuttle cargo bay.

If the cord had snapped higher up, the portion remaining attached

to Columbia might have gone out of control and possibly even wrapped around the shuttle.

Astronauts later said the tether appeared frayed and stripped and noted that its nylon and Teflon outer coating looked to be charred and melted.

NASA refused to speculate on what might have gone wrong but promised to find out.

Shuttle Columbia loses satellite in space

Royals are on IRA hit list

LONDON (AP) — Soldiers with heavy machine guns have replaced ceremonial, red-uniformed sentries on guard outside royal residences amid reports the queen and her family are IRA targets.

As government officials prepared to meet with the IRA-affiliated Sinn Fein party for the first time since the end of the IRA cease-fire, London newspapers yesterday printed pictures of the weekend wearing traditional

dress uniform, armed with bayonets, standing to attention in sentry boxes and much photographed by tourists are out.

In their place at Buckingham Palace and St. James' Palace in London and Windsor Castle 30 km west of the capital are watchful soldiers in camouflage fatigues with SA 80 machine guns.

The Belfast meeting yesterday was the first time government and Sinn Fein have met face-to-face since the IRA broke its 17-month cease-fire with a truck bomb on

Feb. 9. The bomb in London's Docklands business district killed two people.

After the bombing, Britain and Ireland barred senior officials from the two governments meeting with Sinn Fein but ruled that meetings between lower-ranking government officials and Sinn Fein could continue.

Deputy leader Martin McGuinness said the meeting, called at Sinn Fein's request, was to "examine how the (Northern Ireland) peace process can be rebuilt."

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THE WAY WE WERE...

Sandra Gell's new book provides a sometimes funny, sometimes sad but always honest perspective of life in the kibbutz. Creative illustrations drawn by fellow members of Kibbutz Kfar Blum and by relatives and friends from Israel and abroad, add a special dimension to the anecdotes which only a long-time member of a kibbutz could tell. Softcover, 160 pp.

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NEW STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

Table with columns: Index Name, Last, Change. Includes DJ Industrial, DJ Transp, DJ Comp, NYSE Transp, NYSE Comp, S&P 500, NYSE Mid-Cap, NYSE Small-Cap.

Other stock market indexes

Table with columns: Index Name, Last, Change. Includes FTSE 100, Nikkei 225, Hang Seng, etc.

Israeli stocks in NY

Table with columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Lists various Israeli companies like Bank Leumi, Bank Hapoalim, etc.

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NEW MONEY MARKET

Dollar deposits (US)

Table with columns: Term, Rate, Change. Lists various deposit rates for different terms.

Labor rates

Table with columns: Labor Type, Rate, Change. Lists various labor rates.

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NEW COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities

Table with columns: Commodity, Last, Change. Lists various US commodity prices.

London commodities

Table with columns: Commodity, Last, Change. Lists various London commodity prices.

Spot market metals (US)

Table with columns: Metal, Last, Change. Lists various spot market metal prices.

New York metal futures

Table with columns: Metal, Last, Change. Lists various New York metal futures prices.

London metal futures

Table with columns: Metal, Last, Change. Lists various London metal futures prices.

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TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various stocks under multi-sided trading.

Two-sided trading

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various stocks under two-sided trading.

Investment Companies

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various investment companies.

Property, Building & Agriculture

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various property, building and agriculture stocks.

Trade & Services

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various trade and services stocks.

Oil Exploration

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various oil exploration stocks.

PARALLEL LIST

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various parallel listed stocks.

INDUSTRIALS

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various industrial stocks.

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

NEW YORK

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various New York international stock prices.

LONDON

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various London international stock prices.

PARIS

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various Paris international stock prices.

FRANKFURT

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Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various Paris international stock prices.

FRANKFURT

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume. Lists various Frankfurt international stock prices.

Comstock Trading Ltd. (02-244876)

Interest rates remain unchanged

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL

Two-Sided Index

210.01 +0.15%

Maof Index

218.54 +0.07%

"THERE'S no change in monetary policy and interest rate," said Eran Goren, managing director at Zannex Securities Ltd.

The central bank left the rate at which it lends to banks unchanged at 14 percent. Most analysts expected no change.

The money supply rose a lower-than-expected 1.1 percent in January from December.

The most active issue was Nice Systems Ltd., a Tel Aviv maker of voice recording and retrieval systems, which was up 5 percent on NIS 5.25 million of shares traded.

It had traded up as much as 6 percent. The company's American Depository receipts traded in New York, each representing one share traded here, touched a lifetime high Friday of 14 1/4 and closed at 14. They were down 1/4 yesterday at 13 3/4.

The two-sided index was at 210.01, up 0.16 percent, preliminary figures show. The Maof index was at 218.54, up 0.07 percent.

A total of NIS 81.4 million of shares traded on the Tel Aviv Stock exchange. Advancing shares outpaced decliners about 3 to 2.

"We've been meeting with managements," and indications are results will be "in line with expectations", Goren said, adding that "the overall picture for

earnings is positive." Goren is watching, for example, for results from two major publicly quoted insurance companies here, the Migdal unit of Africa Israel Investments Ltd. and the Clal group's Clal Insurance division.

There's been a "car-theft epidemic" here, Goren said. "Clal is more susceptible because it is more involved" in that sort of insurance while Migdal concentrates on life policies.

IDB Holdings, which has financial-services interests, was up 1 percent. Koor Industries Ltd., Israel's largest company, eased 0.75 percent. The company's ADR's were off 1/4 yesterday at 19 1/4.

Koor subsidiary Tadiran Ltd., with interests in consumer appliances, telecommunications and defense contracting, finished 0.25 percent ahead. Its shares traded in New York were off 1/4 at 24 1/4.

Elco Holdings rose 1.5 percent. "We recommend the stock at 95 shekels," Goren said. "Now it's 135, and we think there's still mileage in it because the management is superb."

Israel Corp., "after a long spell of boring sentiment toward it" may be "gaining some momentum," Goren said. Israel Corp gained 1 percent while Israel Chemicals closed unchanged.

Bezeq added 0.75 percent. The state-controlled phone company is due to report results today. (Bloomberg)

FTSE falls 36 points

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - Political worries dominated a thin Monday session with shares closing sharply lower as the market held its breath ahead of a crucial parliament vote tonight. The FTSE 100 index closed down 36.1 points to 3704.2.

FRANKFURT - German shares ended lower trade mostly lower, dragged down by weaker Bunds. Dealers say no clear trend in evidence. Debt market volatility likely to dictate share direction in short-term. Volumes relatively low. DAX index seen struggling to reach 2,450 level again. The 30-share DAX index ended down 9.44 points at 2,442.34. In post-bourse trade the DAX index stood at 2,438.73.

PARIS - French shares tracked weaker Wall Street stocks and bond prices to end lower, one trader said the bourse's CAC-40 index could drift back to as low as 1,925-1,930 points for a consolidation before resuming an upward trend. The CAC-40 index closed down 15.96 points or 0.81 percent to 1,960.93.

ZURICH - Swiss shares ended a volatile session virtually unchanged after gaining support late in the day from the firming tendency in the dollar and a recovery in Swiss government bond futures, but prices stayed below their intra-day highs. The All-share SPI index rose 0.78 points to end at 2,144.72.

TOKYO - Tokyo stocks broke a seven-day losing streak and ended moderately up on Monday. But overall, trade was quiet as investors remained on the sidelines because of the approach of the month-end and uncertainty about Japan's scheme to wind up its debt-laden mortgage firms. The 225-share Nikkei average ended up 179.89 points, or 0.89 percent, at 20,480.27.

HONG KONG - Hong Kong stocks closed Monday 1.58 percent lower pressured by a nose-dive by futures and last minute jitters ahead of HSBC's results announcement. The blue-chip Hang Seng index plunged 179.99 points to end at 11,210.42.

SYDNEY - The Australian share market crawled just higher by the close on Monday after a day of slow trading with no positive leads to ignite investor interest ahead of the national poll on March 2. The All Ordinaries index closed 1.9 points higher at 2,266.1.

JOHANNESBURG - South African shares closed moderately better on Monday, with golds leading the way on talk of a recovery in the bullion price and industrials finding support from a cushion of buying support at lower levels. The All-share index ended up 19.5 points at 6,787.0, the Industrial index made 1.6 points to 8,594.9 and the Gold index rose 20.6 points to 1,766.9.

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks slid lower yesterday as interest rates rose on bonds and investors grew leery of what surprises might emerge from a slew of new economic reports this week.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks lost 65.39 points to close at 5,565.10, following records set on Thursday and Friday.

A barrage of new economic readings is scheduled for release this week. Reports are expected today on consumer confidence, January retail sales and producer prices. Later in the week, there will be figures on foreign trade, business inventories, consumer prices and existing home sales.

Stocks close down 65 points

WALL STREET REPORT

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

Table with columns: MARK, STERLING, YEN, SF, FF. Lists various currency cross-rates.

Comstock Trading Ltd. (02-244876)

Compromise reached on surrogacy bill

Law doesn't allow carrying a baby to make money

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee yesterday approved a compromise bill to legalize surrogate motherhood. The bill will not completely please either the religious community or would-be parents who had taken their case to the High Court of Justice.

On March 6, the High Court's extension of existing regulations barring surrogate motherhood arrangements will expire. Health Minister Ephraim Sneh expressed satisfaction with the compromise, adding that it would be brought for second and third reading next week.

Prof. Joseph Schenkar, a member of the Aloni Commission on Surrogacy whose minority opinion formed the basis of the compromise, said the bill "is restrictive, and will probably allow no more than 10 such births a year."

Those who petitioned the High Court have said they would prefer no law at all, so that the number of potential surrogate mothers would not be too small to make surrogacy impossible.

According to the compromise, the commissioning father must be the supplier of the sperm that fertilizes the ovum; the egg must come either from the commissioning mother or from a donor who is not the surrogate mother. Therefore, the baby can be produced only by *in-vitro* fertilization.

Another section of the bill de-

clares that the surrogate mother must be unmarried - unless an approval committee agrees "in special cases" to allow a married woman. Religious lobbyists had insisted that the sperm be supplied only by the commissioning father, but they also opposed allowing a married woman to serve as surrogate mother.

Other changes made in the original bill would allow the surrogate mother to change her mind and ask to keep the baby; this request would be decided upon in court.

Schenkar said the bill will make Israel's surrogacy law "unique in the world," as it bars commercialization (carrying the baby to make money; only the surrogate's expenses and lost time will be covered). In addition, the import of surrogates will be prohibited, as the women who bear the child must be an Israeli resident and of the same religion as the commissioning mother; if all the parties involved are not Jewish, the seven-member surrogacy committee would have the authority to make an exception.

Surrogacy arrangements, according to the bill, will be supervised by a committee comprised of two gynecologists/obstetricians; one internal-medicine specialist; a clinical psychologist; a social worker; a public representative who is a lawyer; and a clergyman (of the same religion as the parties involved).



Tamar David, a soldier wounded in Sunday's suicide bomb attack in Ashkelon, gets a helping hand from her commanding officer.

Haggai Amir, Adani deny they conspired to murder

RAINE MARCUS

PRIME minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassin, Yigal Amir, his brother, Haggai, and Dror Adani denied charges of conspiracy to murder in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday.

Adani, through his lawyer Zion Amir, also denied plotting to kill Palestinians. However he pleaded guilty to passing on an Uzi submachine gun to Yigal Amir, but said he gave it to him for safekeeping only.

Zion Amir also demanded that Adani be transferred from Shata prison to a lock up in the central district, arguing that his incarceration 150 kilometers away made

meeting his client very difficult. He said he would refuse to represent him if police and Prisons Service authorities did not transfer him to a nearer prison.

Haggai Amir pleaded guilty to possessing weapons and manufacturing ammunition. Shortly after the assassination, a large cache of ammunition and explosives was found at the family's Herzliya home.

His lawyer, Moshe Meroz, said that Haggai Amir only learned of his brother's plans to kill Rabin after the assassination. Meroz

also claimed that statements given by his client to police and the GSS were made under "extreme pressure." He was subjected to sleep deprivation and kept in a meter-square cell, with his hands bound. Under these conditions, said Meroz, he broke down and confessed to crimes he did not commit. The trial will continue on April 17.

Meanwhile Yigal Amir's lawyer, Shmuel Fleishman, has petitioned the Tel Aviv District Court to allow him to again summon 10 prosecution witnesses who testified against his client before he began representing him.

2 soldiers lightly hurt in zone

DAVID RUDGE

TWO soldiers were lightly wounded in a Hizbullah attack on IDF troops in the Beaufort Castle area in the eastern sector of the security zone yesterday morning.

The army spokesman said IDF troops on operational duties in the area came under fire from mortars and light weapons during the course of which one soldier was lightly hurt and another very lightly wounded.

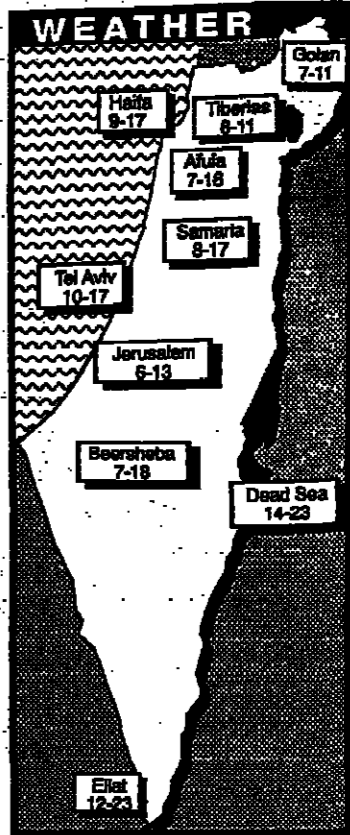
The wounded soldiers were treated in the field before being evacuated to Safed's Rebecca Sieff hospital, where they were both reported to be in satisfactory condition.

Hizbullah claimed responsibility for the operation saying, in a statement, that its Islamic Resistance fighters had attacked a tank-led patrol near the Beaufort Castle and also shelled an IDF position in the same area. IDF gunners blasted suspected Hizbullah positions and infiltration trails north of the zone in response to the attack.

Meanwhile, news agencies reported yesterday that a Lebanese man who reportedly worked for Israel's intelligence services had himself been snatched from the security zone by Lebanese agents aided by two defectors from the ranks of the South Lebanese Army security apparatus.

The reports were based on a story in the *As-Safir* Lebanese daily newspaper which quoted security sources as saying that Ahmed Hallak had been spirited out of the zone in the boot of a car after his whiskey had been drugged.

Hallak was accused of the Beirut car bomb blast in December 1994 in which three people were killed, including Fuad Moughniyyeh, brother of a leading Hizbullah activist.



Forecast: Partly cloudy. Local rain in north and center.

AROUND THE WORLD

Location	Low	High	Condition
Amsterdam	05	11	cloudy
Bombay	25	31	clear
Buenos Aires	18	21	clear
Chicago	03	09	rain
Copenhagen	03	07	cloudy
Frankfurt	01	05	rain
Geneva	03	07	cloudy
Hong Kong	23	29	cloudy
London	07	10	cloudy
Los Angeles	51	58	rain
Madrid	07	10	cloudy
Manila	27	31	rain
New York	07	11	cloudy
Paris	06	10	cloudy
Rome	08	12	clear
Stockholm	03	06	cloudy
Tokyo	01	04	rain
Vienna	01	04	rain
Zurich	03	06	rain
Jerusalem	08	13	partly

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the nine of spades, king of hearts, seven of diamonds and nine of clubs.

Arabist: 'Jews, Moslems on collision course'

GREER FAY CASHMAN

JEWES and Moslems are on "a collision course until doomsday" due to cultural and historical differences, according to a professor of Islamic history at the Hebrew University.

As regards Jerusalem, for instance, "it's two great cultures which are in conflict with each other," Prof. Moshe Sharon told delegates to the Third Zionist Christian Congress yesterday. While there is not a single reference to Jerusalem in the Koran, Sharon noted, Jerusalem and other "divinely holy" places such as Hebron and Bethlehem have become holy to the Moslems through the Islamization of history and geography.

Jewish and Christian traditions remained in places conquered by or ceded to the Moslems, and these were subsequently absorbed by them, said Sharon, citing as an example the Dome of the Rock which was not initially built to serve as a mosque, but to commemorate the Temple of Solomon.

But there was a need to connect Jerusalem to the founder of Islam, and this gave birth to the legend of Mohammed's night journey on a winged steed from Mecca to Jerusalem via Mount Sinai, Hebron and Bethlehem. All these sites were resanctified Islamically.

Another quake rocks Eilat

DAVID RUDGE

ANOTHER strong earthquake rocked Eilat yesterday morning for the second time in less than a week. It was felt in the Tel Aviv region and as far north as Safed.

Experts said the quake, at 9:15, was slightly stronger than the one in the same area last Wednesday and was even closer this time to the southern coastal resort.

No injuries or damage were reported in Eilat, although the tremor shook hotels and homes and especially the upper floors of high rise buildings. The quake was also felt in Cairo, and in parts of Sinai. Dr. Gady Shamir, from the Seismology Division of the Geophysical Institute, said the quake measured 5.5 on the Richter scale, compared to 5.4 last Wednesday.

State told to explain why Ethiopian activist is sitting on Navon panel

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday gave the state 14 days to explain why Addisu Messala, who heads the United Ethiopian Immigrants Association, should be allowed to sit on the Navon Commission investigating the destruction of Ethiopian blood donations.

Justices Eliezer Goldberg, Eliahu Mazza and Ya'akov Kedmi also ordered the state to explain why Prime Minister Shimon Peres appointed the commission, given that blood donations fall into Health Minister Ephraim Sneh's area of authority.

The show-cause orders were issued in response to a petition by Dr. Amnon Ben-David, Magen David Adom's director of blood services. Ben-David's lawyer, Uzi Azmon, argued that Messala - who has repeatedly been quoted by the press as saying he holds Ben-David responsible for the affair and is determined to get him fired - has no business on a committee whose job is to carry out an impartial investigation into who was responsible.

Messala confirmed to the court that he had made such statements, but insisted that he would listen with an open mind to any evidence to the contrary. The state added that Messala was only one of seven members, and that his status as head of his organization made him a logical choice for the commission.

Azmon also argued that only Sneh had the authority to appoint such a commission, since blood donations fall into his bailiwick. The state, in response, argued that this was not a narrow health issue, but a subject with many broad public implications, and therefore an appropriate matter for prime ministerial involvement. However, the court issued show-cause orders on both issues.

The court rejected Ben-David's other two requests, however: that the commission be replaced with a state commission of inquiry, and that Sneh be ordered to stop threatening MDA with funding cuts if it does not suspend Ben-David. The latter charge is already being heard by a labor court.

Panel on Yemenite children to rule soon on genetic profiling

EVELYN GORDON

THE commission of inquiry into the missing Yemenite children will decide shortly whether to order genetic profiles made of all parents who claim their children were stolen, the state told the High Court of Justice yesterday.

The court was hearing a petition demanding that genetic profiles be taken of both the parents and the skeletons which allegedly belong to the missing children, and then compared.

Justices Eliezer Goldberg, Eliahu Mazza and Ya'akov Kedmi rejected the petition, saying the petitioners had no business going to court before the

commission had decided on the issue. However, the state announced that the commission would decide shortly on whether to make genetic profiles of the parents in any case, since many of them are elderly, and may not have much time. However, the state added, a decision on whether to make such profiles of the skeletons will take longer to reach. The petition was filed by Yigal Yosef, head of the Public Committee for Finding the Missing Yemenite Children, and MKs Avigdor Kahalani (Labor), Aryeh Gamliel (Shas) and Tzahi Hanegbi (Likud).

Early elections bill passes on 2nd and 3rd reading

LIAT COLLINS

THE Knesset yesterday passed the bill calling for early elections to be held May 29 on second and third readings.

Discussions on a series of bills on technical electoral decisions

were held shortly after the Knesset plenum finished its discussion on Sunday's attacks in Jerusalem and Ashkelon. Voting on some of

the bills was postponed because of the absence of MKs from the Knesset, as some of the clauses require a majority of 61 MKs to pass, and there was less than that number of MKs in the House.

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